UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS WESTERN DIVISION

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| U.S. DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT ARKANSAS | 3 |

MAR 13 2013

JAMES W MCCODMACK OF T

| HERMAN WARREN, | By: Brown |
|---|--|
| Individually and as parent and Guardian of JORDAN WARREN, a minor and | DEP CLERK |
| ANNIE WARREN |) CIVIL ACTION NO: |
| VS. | 4:13-CV-137 JMM |
| THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA | This case assigned to District Judge Moody and to Magistrate Judge Ray |
| COMPLA | TAIT |

COMPLAINT

Comes Plaintiffs, Herman Warren, Jordan Warren, and Annie Warren, by and through counsel, LaTonya Laird Austin, The Austin Law Firm, PLLC, and for their Complaint, states:

- 1. Plaintiffs was all times relevant hereto residents of North Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas. The negligent act complained of herein also occurred in Pulaski County which is in the Western Division of the Eastern District. Thus venue is proper in this court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1402(b).
- 2. Defendant owns and operates a VA Medical Center in North Little Rock, Arkansas ("VA") through which it employs hundreds of people, including Carlton Dickerson. Mr. Dickerson was at all times described herein operating in the course and scope of his employment with the VA.
 - 3. This Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §1346.
- 4. This is a negligence case involving a motor vehicle collision between the Plaintiffs and an employee of the VA, as more fully described herein, and is brought under the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28. U.S.C. §2671, et. seq. Plaintiffs presented a claim to the VA via Form 95 in writing as evidenced by Exhibit "A" attached hereto. On September 27, 2012 those

claims was denied in writing by the VA as evidenced by Exhibit "B" attached hereto. Plaintiffs bring this suit as the result of the denial of their claim.

- 5. On December 30, 2011, Plaintiff was turning northbound on Moss Street in North Little Rock when the Plaintiffs were struck by a white Tahoe owned by the Department of Veterans Affairs and driven by VA employee, Carlton Dickerson, pulled out from Short 17th Street (eastbound), failing to stop for the Plaintiff's vehicle, striking it on its driver's side. The collision resulted in property damage and injury to the Plaintiffs.
- 6. Carlton Dickerson, while in the course and scope of his employment with the VA, in causing the above described collision, was negligent in the following respects:
 - a. failing to stop;

failing to maintain a proper lookout;

otherwise failing to exercise reasonable care and to obey the rules of the road applicable to operators of motor vehicles; and

filing a false accident report.

- 7. As a proximate result of the negligence of Defendant, imputed to it by the actions of its employee, the Plaintiffs have sustained the following injuries and damages:
 - a. physical injury;
 - b. pain, suffering and mental anguish experienced in the past and reasonably certain to be experienced in the future;
 - c. medical expenses incurred in the past and reasonably certain to be incurred in the future.
 - d. lost wages and employment,

loss of consortium.

8. With respect to all claims of the Plaintiffs, the Defendant's agent, servant and employee, Carlton Dickerson, was at all times acting within the scope of his employment with

the Defendant, under circumstances where Defendant, if a private person, would be liable to the Plaintiff in accordance with the law and pursuant to the Federal Tort Claims Act. WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray that upon trial of this matter Plaintiffs be awarded judgment against the Defendant and for all other relief to which Plaintiffs may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted, HERMAN WARREN, Individually and as parent and Guardian of JORDAN WARREN, a minor and ANNIE WARREN

BY:

LaTonya Laird Austin (ABN2002102)

300 S. Spring St. Ste. 415

Little Rock, AR 72201 (501)324-9300

(501)374-2662 fax

austinlaw@hotmail.com

INSTRUCTIONS: Please read carefully the instructions on the reverse side and

| CLAIM FOR DAMAGE, INJURY, OR DEATH | supply information requ | e read carefully the instructions or ested on both sides of the form. It is side for additional instructions. | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Submit To Appropriate Federal Agency: Department of Valoranc Ar 2200 Fort Roots Drive North Little Rock, AR 72 | mars 1114 | The Austin Law 300 S. Spring St. Little Rock, AR | (Number, street, co Firm ,, Stc. 415 72201 | ity, State and Zip Code) |
| 3. TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT 4. DATE OF BIRTH MILITARY CIVILIAN 11-5-7-7 8. Basis of Claim (State in detail the known fa | MAMEA] | 12-30-2011 tending the damage, injury, or dea | ath identifying perso | 7. TIME (A.M. or P.M.) 7.15PM. pas and property |
| involved, the place of occurrence and the construction of employment. He al attachment- | cause thereof) (Use addition | onal pages if necessary.) | bu a V | A County |
| 9. | | DAMAGE | F_1 | |
| NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER, IF OTHER T | THAN CLAIMAN I (NUMBE | Уг, \$11 001, сту, отого) а па Zip Coa | <i>'e)</i> | |
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| Jordanwarren | 140 Nor | ADDRESS (Number, street, 94 W. 16 th 4h UHHe Rock | City, State, and Zip | Codel (4 |
| 12. (See instructions on reverse) | AMOUNT OF CLAI | | | |
| 3927.58 10,652 | MAL MUNITY 12 Loss march 12 Male march 12 Male | 2c. WRONGFUL DEATH | forfeiture of your 136,841. | to specify may cause our rights.) |
| I CERTIFY THAT THE AMOUNT OF CLAIM COV | | ND INJURIES CAUSED BY THE ACTHS CLAIM. | CCIDENT ABOVÉ AI | ND AGREE TO ACCEPT |
| 136, SIGNATURE OF CLAMPANT ISSE INSTRUCTOR | | 301-334 | ber of alginatory 4-4300 ALF 1375 | 14 date of claim 8-7-12 |
| CIVIL PENALTY FOR PRESEI FRAUDULENT CLAIM | | CRIMINAL PENALTY CLAIM OR MAK | FOR PRESENTING F KING FALSE STATES | |
| The claimant shall forfeit and pay to the Unite | ed States the sum of | Fine of not more than \$10,000 | or imprisonment for | r not more than 5 years |

NSN 7540-00-634-4046

or both. (See 18 U.S.C. 287, 1001.)

STANDARD FORM 95 (Rev. 7-85) (EG) PRESCRIBED BY DEPT. OF JUSTICE 20 050 44 2

States. (See 31 U.S.C. 3729.)

\$2,000 plus double the amount of damages sustained by the United

PRIVACY ACT NOTICE

This Notice is provided in accordance with the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(3), and B. Principal Purpose: The information requested is to be used in evaluating claims. concerns the information requested in the letter to which this Notice is attached. A. Authority: The requested information is solicited pursuant to one or more of the following: 5 U.S.C. 301, 38 U.S.C. 501 et seq., 28 U.S.C. 2671 et seq., 28 C.F.R. Part 14.

- C. Routine Use: See the Notices of Systems of Records for the agency to whom you are submitting this form for this information.
- D. Effect of Fellure to Respond: Disclosure is voluntary. However, fellure to supply the requested information or to execute the form may render your claim "invalid".

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete all items - insert the word NONE where applicable

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Any instructions or information necessary in the preparation of your claim will be furnished, upon request, by the office indicated in Item #1 on the reverse side. Complete regulations pertaining to claims asserted under the Federal Tort Claims Act can be found in Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 14. Many agencies have published supplemental regulations also. If more than one agency is involved, please state each agency

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If claimant intends to file claim for both personal injury and property damage, claim for both must be shown in Item 12 of this form-

The amount claimed should be substantiated by competent evidence as follows: (a) In support of the claim for personal injury or death, the claimant should submit a written report by the attending physician, showing the nature and extent of injury, the nature and extent of treatment, the degree of permanent disability, if any, the prognosis, and the period of hospitalization, or incapacitation, attaching itemized bills for medical, hospital, or burial expenses actually incurred.

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(d) Failure to completely execute this form or to supply the requested material within two years from the date the allegations accrued may render your claim "invalid". A claim is deemed presented when it is received by the appropriate agency, not when it is mailed.

Fallure to specify a sum certain will result in invalid presentation of your claim and may result in forfeiture of your rights.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden,

| to | Director, Forts Branch | and to the | | |
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| | Civil Division | Office of Management and Budget | | |
| | U.S. Department of Justice | Paperwork Reduction Project (1105-0 | O08) | |
| | Washington, DC 20530 | Washington, DC 20503 | | |
| | INSURA | NCE COVERAGE | | |
| n order that subrogation claims may be adjudicated, it is essential that the claimant provide the following information regarding the insurance coverage of his vehicle or property. | | | | |
| 15 | 5. Do you carry accident insurance? Yes, If yes, give name and address of insurance company (Number, street, city, State, end Zip Code) and policy number. X No | | | |
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| | | | | |
| 16. | Have you filed claim on your insurance carrier in this instance, and if so, is it | uil coverage or deductible? | 17. If deductible, state amount | |
| | | | | |
| | 4/14 | | · | |
| | N/A | | · | |
| 18. | If claim has been filed with your carrier, what action has your insurer taken or | proposes to take with reference to your cli | irn? (It is necessary that you ascertain these facts) | |
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19. Do you carry public liability and property damage insurance? Yes, if yes, give name and address of insurance company (Number, street, city, State, and Zip Code)

No

INSTRUCTIONS: Please read carefully the instructions on the reverse side and

| INJURY, OR DEATH | | lested on both sides of the form side for additional instructions. | | s) if OMB NO. 1105-0008 |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| 1. Submit To Appropriate Federal Agency: OFFICE THE CHARLES OF VOICE Department of Veterans Af 2200 Fort Regis Drive North Little Rock, AR 72: | fiairs | The Austin Law 300 S. Spring S Little Rock, AR | e.L.(Number, street, city v Firm st., Ste. 415 | representative, if an v, State and Zip Code |
| 3. TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT & DATE OF BIRTH | H IS MARRY & STAFFOR | | 7 | TIME IA.M. OF P.M. 7:15 pm. |
| 8. Basis of Claim (State in detail the known fainvolved, the place of occurrence and the construction of t | cts and circumstances at cause thereof) (Use additional Clunt ersmstruck ding - I hi | tending the damage, injury, or distinct the state of the state of a state of | eath, identifying person nager in the of the vehicle the police | s and property. |
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| 9. | | | | |
| NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER, IF OTHER T | THAN CLAIMANT (Number | or, street, city, State, a nd Zip Co } | ide) | |
| BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE PROPERTY, NATURE A inseructions on reverse side.) | | E AND THE LOCATION WHERE | PROPERTY MAY BE IN | SPECTED, (See |
| N/A | | | | |
| 10. STATE NATURE AND EXTENT OF EACH INJUR | Y OF CAUSE OF DEATH | , WHICH FORMS THE BASIS OF | THE CLAIM IE OTHER | THAN CLAIMANT |
| STATE NAME OF INJURED PERSON OR DECED MS. WAYYON SUSHI I NEA | ENT. Nack and U | inst indunes. S | the also sus | tained |
| mental Stress due to the | e aroundent | which caused | her to sto | art |
| her menstral. See | medical r | words attached | L, | |
| 11. | WITNES | SES | | |
| NAME | | ADDRESS (Number, street | t, city, State, and Zip C | ode) |
| Herman Warren | | 1424 W.164 | > | ı |
| | | 1424 W.1644 North Little Re | xx,41272 | .114 |
| 12. (See instructions on reverse) | AMOUNT OF CLAI | | de Tite August Mittelstander (2000) - Gallet St. (2000) | E 464824 W. Market |
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| FRAUDULENT CLAIM | 411140 | | AKING FALSE STATEME | |
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States. (See 31 U.S.C. 3729.)
95-109
Previous editions not usable.
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The claimant shall forfeit and pay to the United States the sum of

\$2,000 plus double the amount of damages sustained by the United

CLAIM FOR DAMAGE,

NSN 7540-00-634-4046

STANDARD FORM 95 (Rev. 7-85) (EG) PRESCRIBED BY DEPT. OF JUSTICE 28 CFR 14.2

Fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than 5 years

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FORM APPROVED

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Director, Torts Branch

and to the

| U.S. Department of Justice Washington, DC 20530 | Paperwork Reduction Pr Washington, DC 20503 | |
|--|---|--|
| | INSURANCE COVERAGE | |
| In order that subrogation claims may be adjudicated, it is | essential that the claimant provide the following information | n regarding the insurance coverage of his vehicle or property. |
| 15. Do you carry accident insurance? Yes, if yes, gi | ive name and address of insurance company (Number, stre | eet, city, State, and Zip Code) and policy number. No |
| | NIA | |
| 16. Have you filed claim on your insurance carrier in this | instance, and if so, is it full coverage or deductible? | 17. If deduction, state amount |
| | NA | |
| 18. If claim has been filed with your carrier, what action h | as your insurer taken or proposed to take with reference to | your claim? (It is necessary that you ascertain these facts) |
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| | NIA | |
| 19. Do you carry public liability and property damage insu | rance? Yes, if yes, give name and address of insuran | nce carrier (Number, street, city, State, and Zip Code) (No |
| · | • | |
| | NIA | |

| CLAIM FOR DAMAGE, INJURY, OR DEATH | supply information req | se read carefully the instructions uested on both sides of the form te side for additional instructions | n. Use additional sh | e and FORM APPROVED OMB NO. 1105-0008 |
|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Submit To Appropriate Federal Agency: Department of Veterals Affects Drive North Little Rock, AR 721 | | 300 S. Sp | t and claimant's per M. Law Pinneree ring St., Stc. 4: k, AR 72201 | t, city, State and Zip Code/ |
| 3. TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT 4. DATE OF BIRTH MILITARY X CIVILIAN 4-2-45 | Named | 12.3011 | | 7. TIME (A.M. or P.M.) 7:15pm |
| 8. Basis of Claim (State in detail the known facinvolved, the place of occurrence and the country of the Country of the Vehic | ause thereof) (Use addit Herman h Le. Mr. W | Vannen Son Od Varnen Son Od Varnen Was | - Anny | Warren A officer |
| Carlow Dackerson | Nu chenz | has sustaine | a Dhusici | al injunes |
| that caused himto be | e terminal | ed from his | Place of | employment. |
| 9. | PROPERTY | DAMAGE | | |
| NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER, IF OTHER TO Amul Namen 1424 | HAN CLAIMANT (Numb W. 16 +1) | er, street, city, State, and Zip C NOMN LITHE | Pock AR | 72114 |
| BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE PROPERTY, NATURE AND EXTENT OF DAMAGE AND THE LOCATION WHERE PROPERTY MAY BE INSPECTED. (See instructions on reverse side.) | | | | |
| 2007 FORD EXPLORENCED damage to the left frontside property | | | | |
| 10. PERSONAL INJURY/WRONGFUL DEATH STATE NATURE AND EXTENT OF EACH INJURY OR CAUSE OF DEATH, WHICH FORMS THE BASIS OF THE CLAIM. IF OTHER THAN CLAIMANT, | | | | |
| STATE NAME OF INJURED PERSON OR DECED | ENT. | • | | |
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| | | | | |
| 11. NAME | WITNE | ADDRESS (Number, street | a site Cana | Zin On dal |
| IVAIVIE | | ADDRESS (Number, Street | er, ary, state, and a | zip Code) |
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| 12. (See instructions on reverse) | AMOUNT OF CLA | IM (In dollars) | | |
| 12a. PROPERTY DAMAGE 12b. PERSON | - 10 Company (1995) | 2c. WRONGFUL DEATH | 4 | ure to specify may cause |
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| I CERTIFY THAT THE AMOUNT OF CLAIM COV SAID AMOUNT IN FULL SATISFACTION AND FI | | | ACCIDENT ABOVE | AND AGREE TO ACCEPT |
| 13a. SIGNATURE OF CLAIMANT (See instruction | ns an reverse side.) | 13b. Phone nu | mber of signatory | 14. DATE OF CLAIM |
| Mun 7. Wel | arrie) | 571324 | .9300 | 8-29-12 |
| CIVIL PENALTY FOR PRESENT FRAUDULENT CLAIM | TING | CRIMINAL PENALT CLAIM OR M. | Y FOR PRESENTING AKING FALSE STAT | FRAUDULENT |
| The claimant shall forfeit and pay to the United \$2,000 plus double the amount of damages susta | States the sum of ained by the United | Fine of not more than \$10,00 or both. (See 18 U.S.C. 287, | 00 or imprisonment | \ . |

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Director, Torts Branch

and to the

| mation regarding the insurance coverage of his vehicle or property r, street, city, State, and Zip Code) and policy number. No |
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| r, street, city, State, and Zip Code) and policy number. No |
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| 17. If deduction, state amount |
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| ce to your claim? (It is necessary that you ascertain these facts) |
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Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Regional Counsel 2200 Fort Roots Drive, Bldg 5 North Little Rock, AR 72114 Phone 501-257-4122 Fax 501-257-4133

CERTIFIED MAIL - RRR September 27, 2012 In Reply Refer To: GCL76319 Direct Line: (501) 257-4129

Ms. LaTonya Laird Austin The Austin Law Firm, PLLC 300 Spring Street, Ste 415 Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Administrative Tort Claim of Herman Warren

Dear Ms. Austin:

After careful consideration by this office, we have determined that your client's claim is not amenable to administrative resolution. Accordingly, the claim is hereby denied.

If you are dissatisfied with this decision, you may file a request for reconsideration of with client's claim with the VA General Counsel by any of the following means: (1) you may mail your request to the Department of Veterans Affairs, General Counsel (021B), 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20420; (2) you may file your request by data facsimile (fax) to (202) 273-6385; or (3) you may e-mail your request to OGC.torts@mail.va.gov. To be timely filed, VA must receive this request prior to the expiration of six months from the date of the mailing of this final denial. Upon filing such a request for reconsideration, the Department of Veterans Affairs shall have six months from the date of that filing in which to make final disposition of the claim, and your option to file suit in an appropriate United States District Court under 28 U.S.C. 2675(a) shall not accrue until six months after the filing of such request for reconsideration (28 C.F.R. Section 14.9).

In the alternative, if you are dissatisfied with the action taken on this claim, you may file suit in accordance with the Federal Tort Claims Act, sections 1346(b) and 2671-2680, Title 28, United States Code, which provides that a tort claim that is administratively denied may be presented to a Federal district court for judicial consideration. Such a suit must be initiated within six months after the date of the mailing of this notice of final denial as shown by the date of this letter (section 2401(b), Title 28, United States Code). If you do initiate such a suit, you are further advised that the proper party defendant is the United States, not VA.

Sincerely yours.

RÓGER T. GRAY Assistant Regional Counsel

CAVHS Medical Center, Little Rock, AR 72205



Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Regional Counsel 2200 Fort Roots Drive, Bldg 5 North Little Rock, AR 72114 Phone 501-257-4122 Fax 501-257-4133

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL - RRR</u> September 27, 2012 In Reply Refer To: GCL76320 Direct Line: (501) 257-4129

Ms. LaTonya Laird Austin The Austin Law Firm, PLLC 300 Spring Street, Ste 415 Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Administrative Tort Claim of Jordan Warren

Dear Ms. Austin:

After careful consideration by this office, we have determined that your client's claim is not amenable to administrative resolution. Accordingly, the claim is hereby denied.

If you are dissatisfied with this decision, you may file a request for reconsideration of with client's claim with the VA General Counsel by any of the following means: (1) you may mail your request to the Department of Veterans Affairs, General Counsel (021B), 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20420; (2) you may file your request by data facsimile (fax) to (202) 273-6385; or (3) you may e-mail your request to OGC.torts@mail.va.gov. To be timely filed, VA must receive this request prior to the expiration of six months from the date of the mailing of this final denial. Upon filing such a request for reconsideration, the Department of Veterans Affairs shall have six months from the date of that filing in which to make final disposition of the claim, and your option to file suit in an appropriate United States District Court under 28 U.S.C. 2675(a) shall not accrue until six months after the filing of such request for reconsideration (28 C.F.R. Section 14.9).

In the alternative, if you are dissatisfied with the action taken on this claim, you may file suit in accordance with the Federal Tort Claims Act, sections 1346(b) and 2671-2680, Title 28, United States Code, which provides that a tort claim that is administratively denied may be presented to a Federal district court for judicial consideration. Such a suit must be initiated within six months after the date of the mailing of this notice of final denial as shown by the date of this letter (section 2401(b), Title 28, United States Code). If you do initiate such a suit, you are further advised that the proper party defendant is the United States, not VA.

Sincerely yours,

ROGER T. GRAY

Assistant Regional Counsel

cc: CAVHS Medical Center, Little Rock, AR 72205



Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Regional Counsel 2200 Fort Roots Drive, Bldg 5 North Little Rock, AR 72114 Phone 501-257-4122 Fax 501-257-4133

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL - RRR</u> September 27, 2012

In Reply Refer To: GCL76434 Direct Line: (501) 257-4129

Ms. LaTonya Laird Austin The Austin Law Firm, PLLC 300 Spring Street, Ste 415 Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Administrative Tort Claim of Annie Warren

Dear Ms. Austin:

After careful consideration by this office, we have determined that your client's claim is not amenable to administrative resolution. Accordingly, the claim is hereby denied.

If you are dissatisfied with this decision, you may file a request for reconsideration of with client's claim with the VA General Counsel by any of the following means: (1) you may mail your request to the Department of Veterans Affairs, General Counsel (021B), 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20420; (2) you may file your request by data facsimile (fax) to (202) 273-6385; or (3) you may e-mail your request to OGC.torts@mail.va.gov. To be timely filed, VA must receive this request prior to the expiration of six months from the date of the mailing of this final denial. Upon filing such a request for reconsideration, the Department of Veterans Affairs shall have six months from the date of that filing in which to make final disposition of the claim, and your option to file suit in an appropriate United States District Court under 28 U.S.C. 2675(a) shall not accrue until six months after the filing of such request for reconsideration (28 C.F.R. Section 14.9).

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Sincerely yours,

RÓGER'T. GRAY' Assistant Regional Counsel

cc: CAVHS Medical Center, Little Rock, AR 72205